

A STARTLING DISCOVERY.

We dare say that only those of our readers who are of an antiquarian turn have given more than a passing thought to the startling discovery recently made by Signor Nessuno of the University of Bologna, over which all the learned societies of Europe are just now chattering as noisily as the crows in our Autumnal woods. Perhaps, indeed, some of our readers may never have so much as heard of the discovery. And let this should be the case, we make haste to lay before the world a full account of the matter, for we cannot bear the thought that such a piece of intelligence should reach the American public through any journal but our own.

This discovery is nothing less than the finding among the papers of Pompeii, which Prof. Nessuno has for many years been engaged in investigating, a complete account of a tour taken by Herod the Great immediately after the massacre of the Innocents, and along with the account of the journey itself, what we should call a full report of a speech which he made at one of the small towns in Judea, where he had occasion to stop on his way, justifying the massacre, and throwing the whole blame on the babies themselves. What he took this journey for is not very clear. There is something about a monument, or, perhaps, the original word is more correctly translated "trophy," which was to be erected to some deceased general; but, whatever this may have been, it seems to have played no important part in the programme of the tour, for there is no allusion to it after the narrative once gets the party fairly started. It has been hinted that this may have been a monument to that great and good man, Julius Cæsar, but we think there is nothing probable in this suggestion. Herod does not appear to have cared much for Cæsar, although he owed his advancement directly to him, Cæsar having appointed him military governor over Galilee, where he gave proof of energy and talent by suppressing a rebellion in that region and reducing the guerrillas to submission. But, no sooner had Cæsar been assassinated than Herod immediately took sides with Brutus and Cassius, although for a time he concealed his real sentiments so well that he was long counted one of Antony's party. It was on this occasion that he won his famous maxim, "Treason must be done odiously," and indeed he denounced traitors so violently that his excessive zeal was a little deprecated; it was feared he might show himself too bloodthirsty. But, he afterward explained that, what he had said was meant in what we should call a Pickwickian sense, and that when he said "traitors," he did not mean his enemies, but his friends.

Herod does not appear to have been an amiable person, if we may judge by numerous anecdotes that have come down to us. He could not brook the slightest opposition, and if anybody said a word he didn't like, he would fly about, as the Greek proverb says, "like a parched pea." He was of a cowardly disposition, too, as cruel people are apt to be, and was constantly in dread of being assassinated, so that, if he saw one of his chief officers fingering his sword or toying with his dagger, he would tremble and grow pale; but, as soon as he found himself in a safe place, he would dance about in a rage, and call the offender names, and behave in such an unbecomingly way that his wise men, or those who stood for such, were continually ashamed for him.

Our readers do not need to be told in detail of the mad act of cruelty and cowardice which stained the conscience of Herod's mean life. The massacre of the Innocents was a deed for which he took the trip alluded to, accompanied by some of the chief men of his kingdom; the old minister before mentioned, the general who commanded his army, the captain of his fleet, the keeper of his treasure, and a crowd of insignificant hangers-on, parasites and flatterers who pretended to think him very wise and great while they drank his wine, ate his dinners and laughed at him in their sleeves.

The massacre of the Innocents had roused the people of Judea to an unimagined fury. In their wild indignation they had charged Herod with personally assisting in the murders, and when it was proved that he really was many miles away, they insisted that he had given orders to his military commander in Bethlehem not to interfere with the soldiers. It happened that the officer in question was not a Roman, but a Judean, and the people had great confidence in him, and when Herod made a proclamation to the effect that this officer had justified the massacre, and had said that the Innocents were entirely to blame, a number of hot-headed, unreasonable fellows stirred up the people to give the tetrarch the lie direct. Especially, there was one Tribune of the people that made such a stir day and night, in season and out of season, that at last the bloody Herod was fairly worn out in telling the truth and owning up that S. Heridanus, which was the name of the officer, had said exactly the contrary of what had been ascribed to him. Our reader may imagine that all this only made matters worse, and Herod had not got far out of Jerusalem on his tour when he began to hear the muttering of the storm. For a full account of his progress we refer our readers to Prof. Nessuno's translation of the original document when it shall appear; but we must content ourselves with a single passage. Herod, before he started on his journey, being lay in a plentiful stock of the best liquors, had also provided himself with a speech which he had first written and then committed to memory; for, being an ignorant, unenlightened person, he never could trust himself to speak impromptu, his grammar being none of the best, his ideas ludicrously incoherent, and the slightest sign of disrespect in his audience, an ill-concealed grin, mock applause, scraping of feet, cat-calling, or any such little eccentricities on the part of the audience acting upon him like a red rag on a bull, and making him rush about on the platform, dash his crown off his head, and beat the nearest bystander with his scepter. Therefore Herod had his speech prepared beforehand, and if Prof. Nessuno has translated it literally, it must have been really comic in its effect. He is reckoned to have stopped in all at one sixty or a hundred places before he got back to Jerusalem, and at every one of these places, he delivered the same speech, the only exception being the one we are about to mention. It happened that Herod came to a certain large town, whose name is not as clear in the manuscript as it might be, and after dinner a large crowd came about the caravan, and he was stopping and called for a speech, and he had just begun to peg away at the old cut-and-dried affair that had served him turn for turn, when he was interrupted by an ill-mannered fellow who cried out: "How about them babies?" Herod immediately grew red in the face, made a grab at his crown, and was about to hurl it at the man, when he saw a young fellow, a servant of his, standing by, and he said to him: "I don't kill 'em, I had to do it, else they would have killed me uns. As for me I have sinned all the depths of honor, and my ambition is gratified to repletion. I have been everything by

turns and nothing long. I began life in a small, low way, but honors and dignities climbed upon my brow, and I filled first one office, and then another until I had sat in the gubernatorial chair, and at length became tetrarch, which fills the cup of my ambition and leaves me satiated with glory. It makes me mad to hear a demoralized and subsidized mob a holler on wherever I go: "How about them babies? How about them babies?" Let me tell you that them Innocents as you call 'em was a poor, feeble, insignificant, contemptible band of fanatics who was engaged in a gigantic scheme to rend my tetrarchy in pieces and blot out the stars from the imperial banner. They were a utterly powerless band of infuriated madmen, and the fact that they were only two years old and under, made their crime more heinous and abominable. It was well known that I had forbid playing in the market place, and yet these innocents came into the market place with penny whistles and flags a flying, and with such defiant airs, that it could not be stood, and their mothers actually had the brass to laugh at 'em and cheer 'em on. Who my friends, I have sinned all the depths of honor, I have sinned in the gab—

At this moment, continues the manuscript, a scene of terrible confusion occurred. The people refused to hear the tetrarch any more, and began to curse him up and down without ceremony, to jeer him and insult him in every way. The air was filled with a deafening clamor, and every degree of stultified stultification added their perfume to the violet of his imperial robes, while the dead bodies of the smaller animals and vermin of the district were buried without cessation, and with the most unerring aim, at his venerable head. One young Jew hurled a dead duck at him, another made a mess of a cone, a creature who, though it was not a duck, was a creature more belong to a feeble folk, proved on this occasion unpleasantly strong. It is not recorded that a tetrarch was ever so abused before. Herod seems to have been utterly unable to defend himself against the storm, and at last gave it up, retreating from the platform amid a whirlwind of jeers, threats, derisive cries and voices that repeated unceasingly: "How about them babies? How about them babies?" Herod was nearly mad with rage and terror. Not long after his return to Jerusalem, and his friends hustled him back to the Capitol without ceremony—he was so weighed upon with remorse and mortification that he is actually said to have held his tongue for a month, whereas he had always been remarkable for the profusion of his speech, and an incessant chatterer. He was no more to be seen without talking about himself. But the sequel was, that the Innocents were well avenged. This awful massacre, which was as much his crime as if he had personally assisted at it, pursued him like an avenging and relentless fury. He could not excuse himself to himself, any more than he could to the people, and history records that to his dying day he heard the screams of the innocent victims to his ears, and his policy, ringing in his ears whether he walked or slept. When he would drink wine, he turned from it with loathing, for it crawled in the cup like corrupted blood; when he would eat meat, the body of a stark and bloody infant lay in the dish. He could no more wash the guilt of that wholesale murder from his soul than Charles the Ninth could the scenes of St. Bartholomew. He was, in his secret chamber, a miserable wretch, and the massacre of New-Jersey, which he first encouraged, and then applauded and excused.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

MINNESOTA.

We give below an exhibit of the vote in the Congressional Districts in the State of Minnesota since 1860. There have been no causes operating in either of the Districts since 1864 which would change the relative numbers of the parties, while the questions of National politics have greatly strengthened the Republicans.

FIRST DISTRICT.

Year.	Rep.	Dem.	Union
1860	10,333	6,236	5,210
1864	8,423	6,123	5,240
1868	11,145	4,992	4,743

In 1868 Winslow ran against Lupton. In 1862 Winslow ran against Lupton.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Year.	Rep.	Dem.	Union
1860	10,333	5,515	4,328
1864	7,660	5,039	2,010
1868	8,711	2,663	2,142

In 1860 Allen ran against Gilliam. In 1862 Donnelly ran against Allen. In 1864 Donnelly ran against Gilliam.

It will be seen from the above that the Republicans in the 1st District in the majority by a neighborhood of 5,000, while in the 2nd District it is between 2,000 and 3,000. Winslow and Donnelly have been re-nominated by the Republicans, and will undoubtedly be returned with undiminished majorities.

ARIZONA.

The general election was held here on Sept. 5. Col. Bachelder, Charles D. Fox and Samuel Adams, all professors of Union sentiments, were candidates for delegate. The issue appears to have been upon the Territorial administration. According to the returns so far received, Bachelder, a warm supporter of Gov. McCormick, is elected by a majority of several hundred. The *Miner* of Sept. 12 has the following:

The *Miner*—Bachelder, in his view of the unpatriotic malignity of the campaign—the money, the rank, the bluster, the representation, the personalities, and the under the influence of his money and power, he will shake the dust from his feet, and leave the Territory, not only a well-deserved rebuke to the personification of the Union, but a popular testimony to the justice of his administration.

Three lines were drawn in but one county (Yavapai), where the Democratic ticket was successful by a small majority. Members of both branches of the Legislature were elected throughout the Territory.

ALABAMA.

P. H. Britten of Russell, M. Paul of Talladega, and Wm. H. Ogden of Montgomery, are announced as candidates for Secretary of State in Alabama. The election takes place during the recess of the Legislature. Mr. Britten was the Rebel Secretary at the time of the collapse of the Confederacy, and is warmly urged for the position. His competitors, like himself, were active Rebels during the war.

NEVADA.

The Republican party in Nevada has renominated Gov. H. G. Blaine for Congressman D. K. Ashley—both deserved tributes to faithful officers. The Democracy and Johnson office-holders have nominated John D. Winters for Governor, and a Mr. Sumner is an independent candidate for Congress. The popularity of the Republican candidates and the unpopularity of their opposition insure an easy victory for the former.

THE U. S. SENATOR ELECT.

On Saturday, the 29th of September, both branches of the Oregon Legislature in Joint Convention, elected Henry W. Corbett United States Senator. The final vote was as follows: Corbett, 35; Nesmith, 15; Smith, 10; and F. J. Kelly, 5. The President of the Senate, the Hon. John W. Whitcomb, announced the result: "number of votes, 69; necessary to a choice, 35; and that Henry W. Corbett, having received a majority of the whole number, was duly elected Senator from the State of Oregon for the full term, beginning the 4th of March, 1867."

In a speech to a public meeting in Portland, Oregon, on the 1st of October, Mr. Corbett thus defined his position on the question of reconstruction:

Long did we wait, anxiously did we look and wait for a plan that should meet with approval for the restoration of those States, with all their political rights, to their former Government, justice to them, and that should promise future prosperity to those fertile fields that have been laid waste by tyranny, anarchy and the ravages of war. We waited, and waited, and waited, until the States by the present Congress, I give embodied all those guarantees and adjustments that will give security and perpetuity to the Union and equal justice to all the people of the Union. To that amendment I have given my hearty and unequalled approval. (Applause.) I feel that great and fearful responsibility rests upon the man who is to sit in the councils of the nation for the next six years, during which time we hope once more for a free and permanent Union, the stability of the Government, and the happiness of our people. (Applause.) It is unnecessary at this time to explain more fully my position, where I am so well known as at my own house, where I have been for many years. I am a Union man, and nothing less (loud and long applause) for in it, and under the graceful folds of our flag, we are safe. Something is due to the good and brave men that fought our battles, and to the brave men that have since been called to the trust imposed on me, and all my past life, I did not ask some security for the future, some assurance for the future, some assurance for the future, some assurance for the future. (Applause.) I feel that great and fearful responsibility rests upon the man who is to sit in the councils of the nation for the next six years, during which time we hope once more for a free and permanent Union, the stability of the Government, and the happiness of our people. (Applause.) 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